

Middle George River from Michikamats Lake

Introduction

The George River was (re)named in 1811 by two Moravian missionaries Benjamin Gottlieb Kohlmeister and George Kmoch. The Moravian Church (its members known as Hussites - followers of Jan Hus) was founded in the fifteenth century Bohemia (currently the Czech Republic). These two missionaries came first to Labrador, then to Ungava Bay with a vision to evangelize the Inuit. They wrote in their diary: "We then proclaimed the name of the Kangertlualuksoak henceforth to be 'George River' ". The Moravian brothers wanted to honour George III, king of Great Britain and Ireland from 1760. It was under his reign that the United States got their independence. The George River is also called "Kangirsualujjuap Kuunga" (river of the great bay) in Inuktitut, or "Mushuan Shipu" (River without trees) in Naskapi and "Metsheshu Shipu" (Eagle River) in Innu.

The George is a big, wide river. Compared to other major rivers of this area, it offers relatively easy and inexpensive access to Ungava Bay, hence its popularity. The George originates about 175 kilometres east of Schefferville in Lac Janniere, between bogs and swamps. The headwater lakes are shallow, connected by rushing rapids. After Lake Advance, the river runs through heavy whitewater until it reaches beautiful Indian House Lake, which stretches 60 km if measured by Canadian topo maps, or 100 km if measured by its flatwater character. After Indian House Lake, the George really starts to flow. It offers an abundance of rapids with various levels of difficulty until it reaches Kangiqsualujjuap close to Ungava Bay. Because of its easy access, many people without the necessary experience and skills have travelled this river and unfortunately lost their lives. The river is big and powerful - the french word "Fleuve", also used to describe the St. Lawrence, describes it's character better than the word "Riviere". The power of the George leaves no room for error. Climatic conditions are ideal for hypothermia. Canoeists have to contend also with serious tidal effects in the last 40 km.

Words of Caution

These maps are based on the notes of Stewart Coffin (1998) and Philip Schubert (2008). The author of these maps did his job according to the information provided, but he has not paddled this section of the river. There is no guarantee that these maps do not contain numerous errors. Rapid classification is subjective. Our subjective evaluation of the class level of these rapids does NOT take into account the remoteness of the region (i.e. distance & time from help etc.), the water temperature (cold kills) & the size & power of this river (any swim could be a very long swim). Moreover, the class of rapids depends on the water level and that can change immensely through the season. Use the information provided here with caution. YOU are the only one responsible for your own decisions and for your own safety. The River described here is wild and very remote. Weather can be also very tough. DO YOUR OWN scouting & reconnaissance. Nobody is taking any responsibility for the information provided here or for your safety.

Distances

The distance on these maps is calculated from Kangiqsualujjuap, an Inuit village at the end of the George River.

Portages

The Portage at Three Gorges starts at 399061 6143530 and ends at 399080 6144083.

The Portage at the waterfall at km 444 starts at 397447 6161508 and ends at 397691 6161897.

Credits

Source

Stewart Coffin (1998)

Philip Schubert (2008)

Base Topographic Maps

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Map work/Text

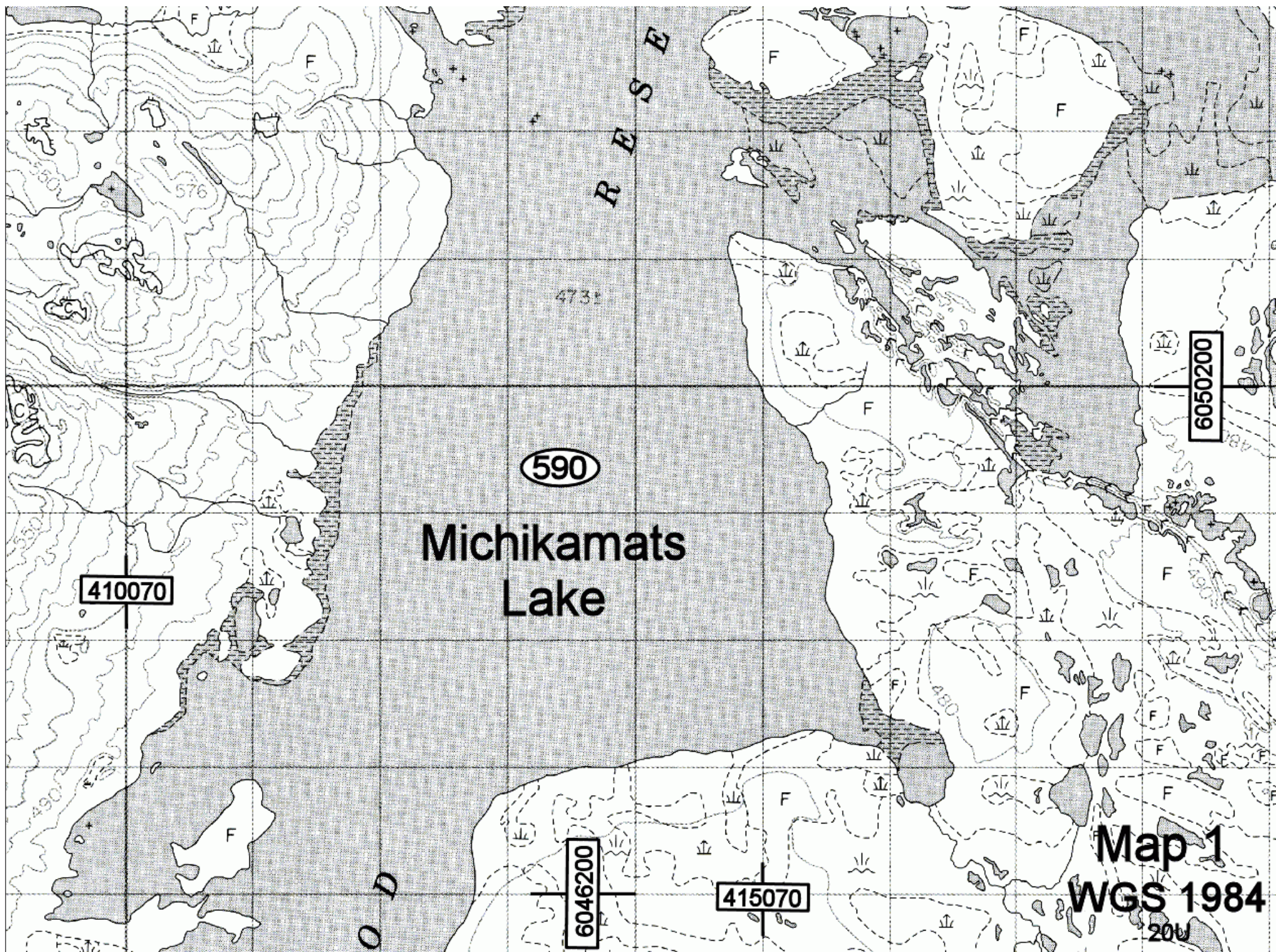
Lester Kovac, summer 2008

Charles Leduc, fall 2008 (formatting)

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www.cartespleinair.org.



Map 2
WGS 1984

20U

412070

6057200

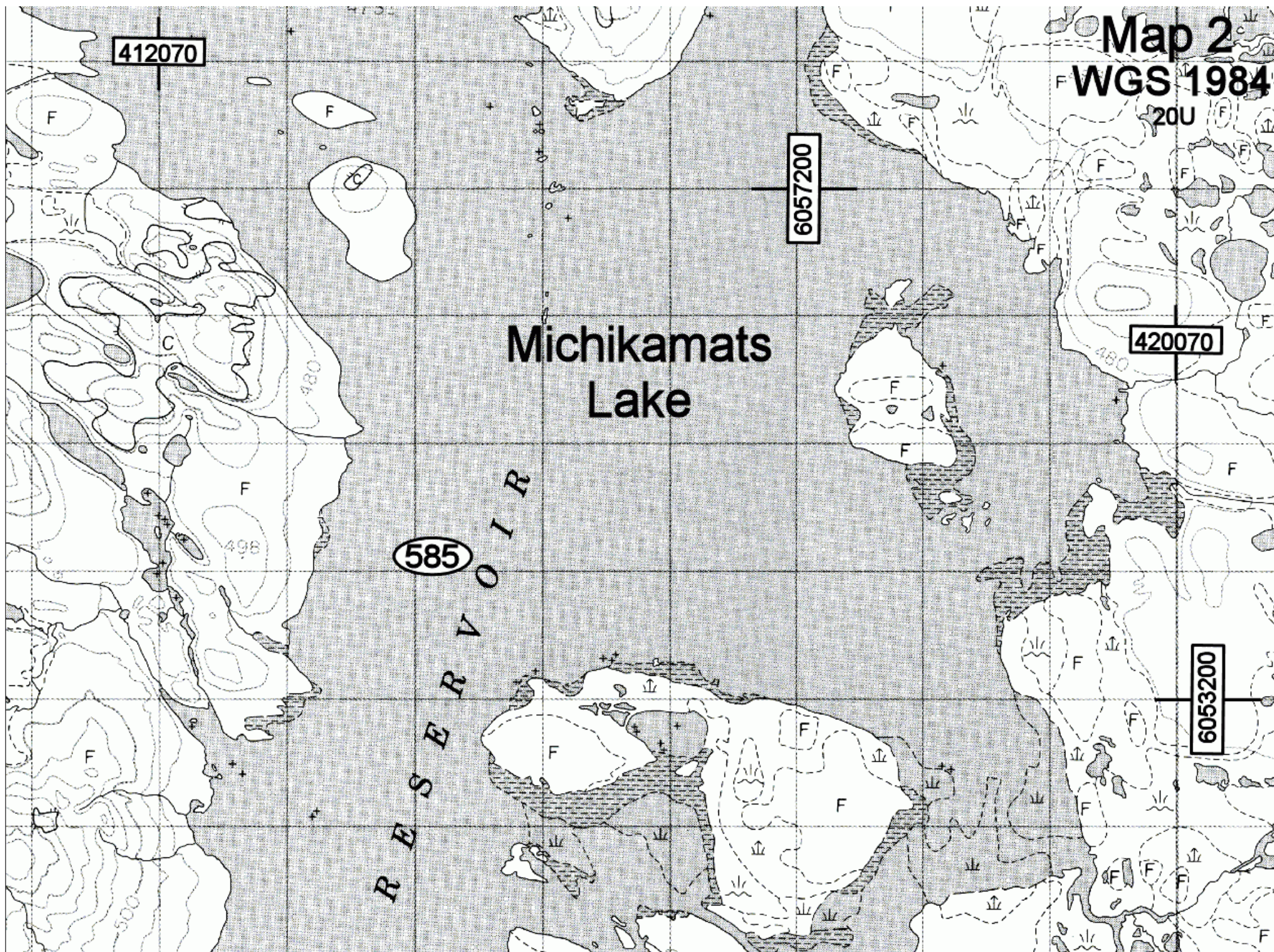
420070

6053200

Michikamats
Lake

585

R E S E R V O I R



Map 3
WGS 1984

20U

walking beside canoe

marsh, paddleable

575

417080

6060200

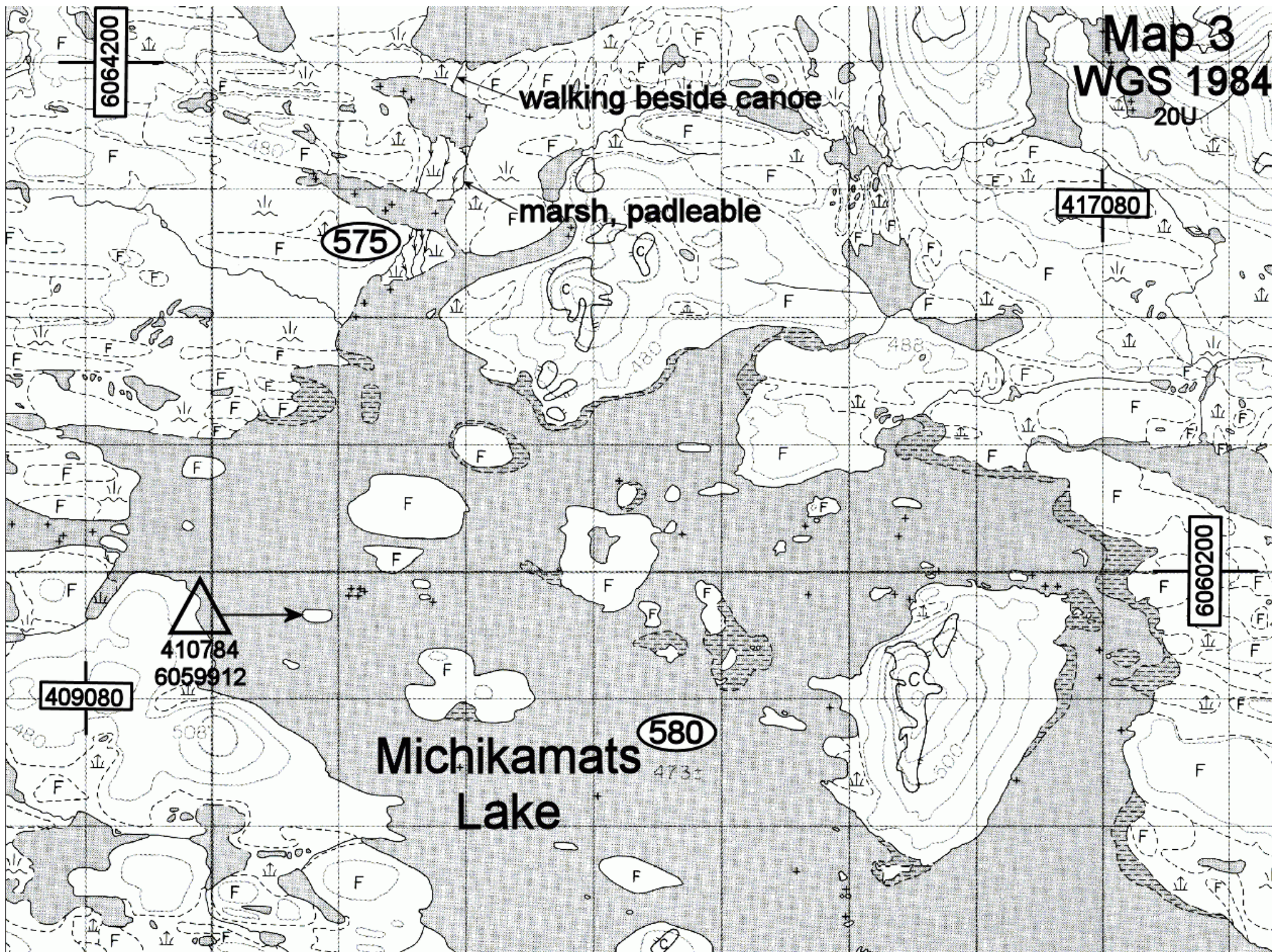
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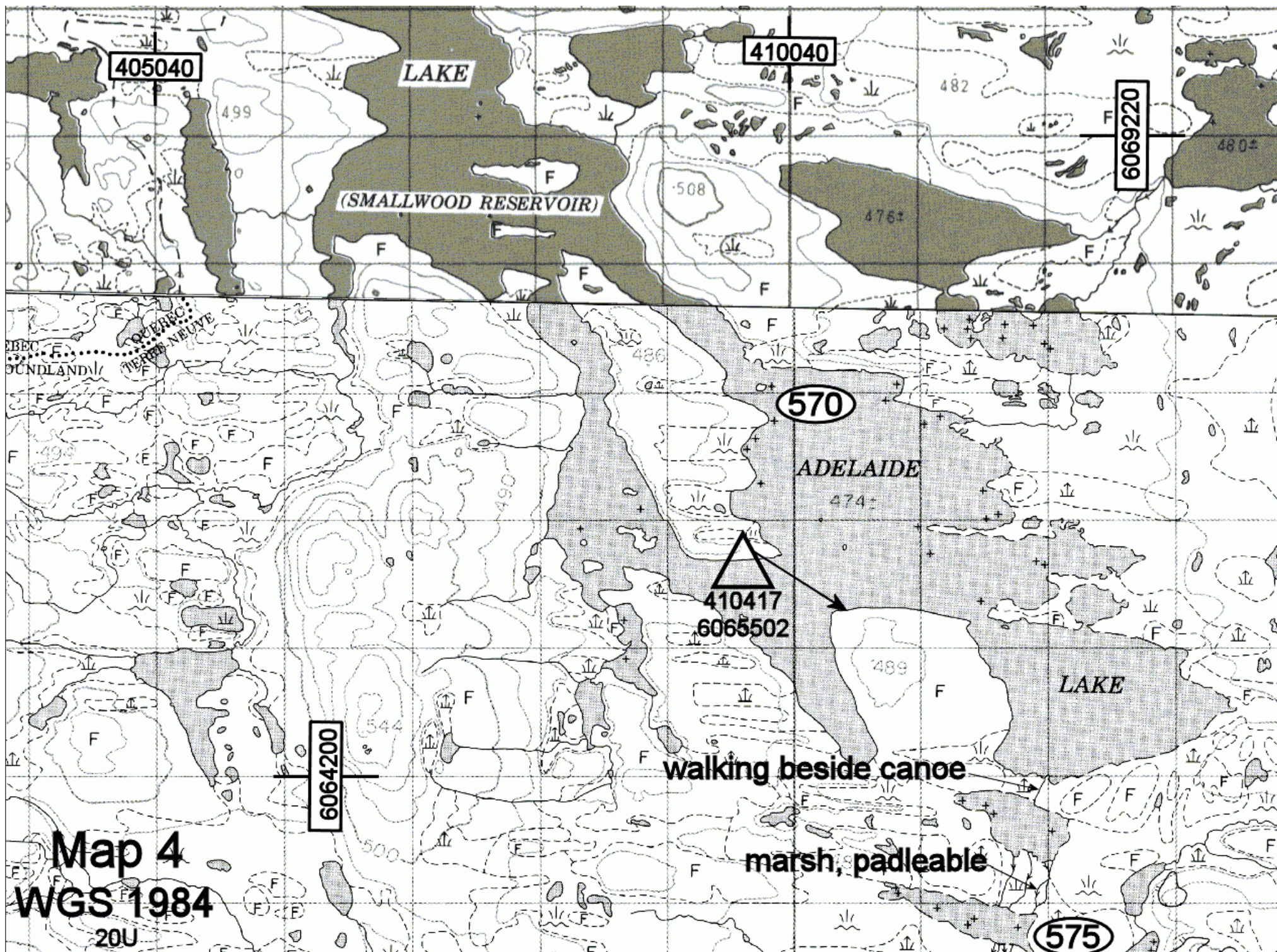
409080

Michikamats
Lake

580

473±





rock garden

6076220

LAC

475±

560

HUBBARD

P100

410040

HUBBARD

very shallow, walking

402040

ADELAIDE

565

LAKE

6070220

Map 5
WGS 1984

20U

Map 6
WGS 1984



Map 7
WGS 1984

20U

6087230

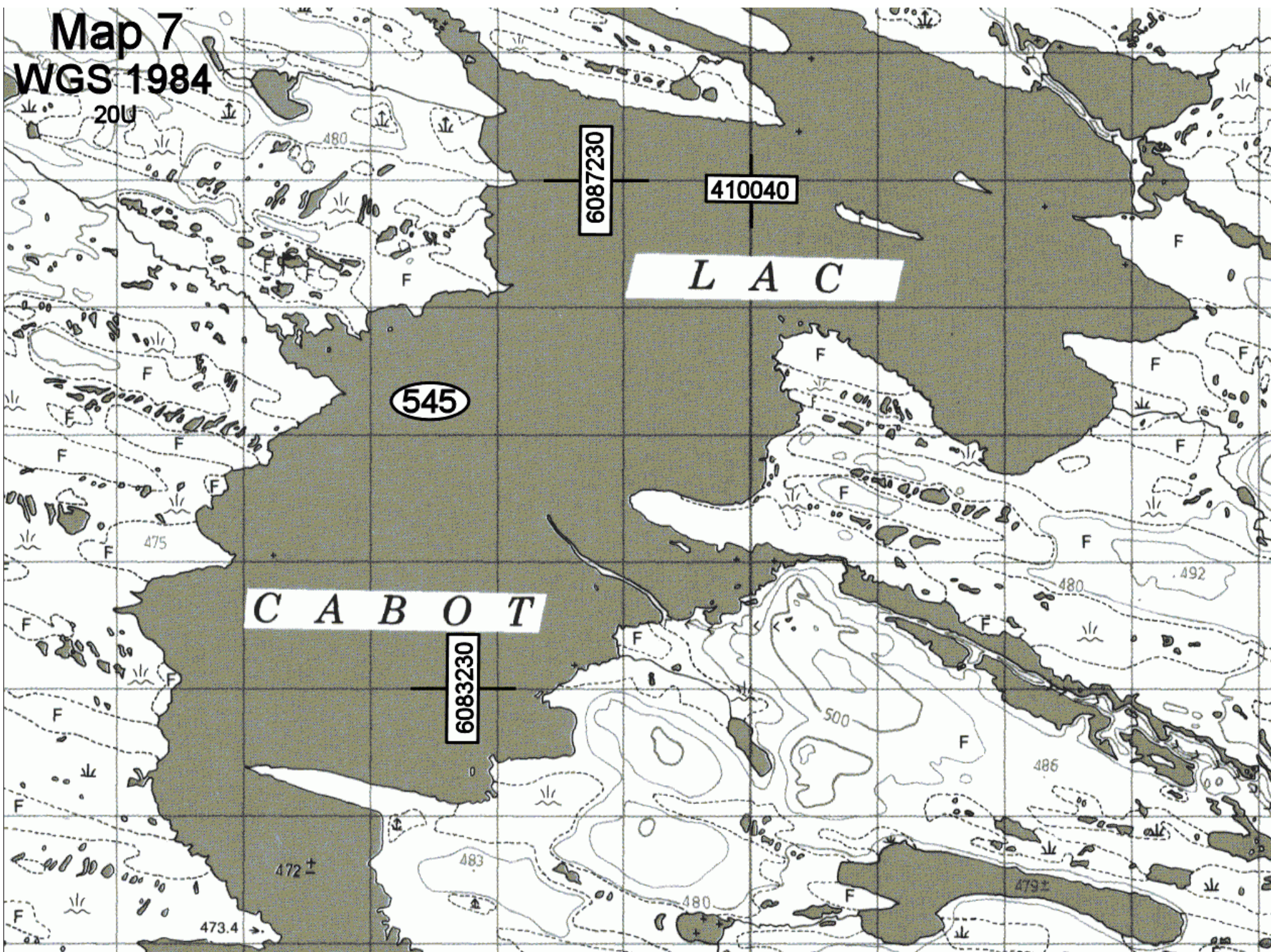
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L A C

545

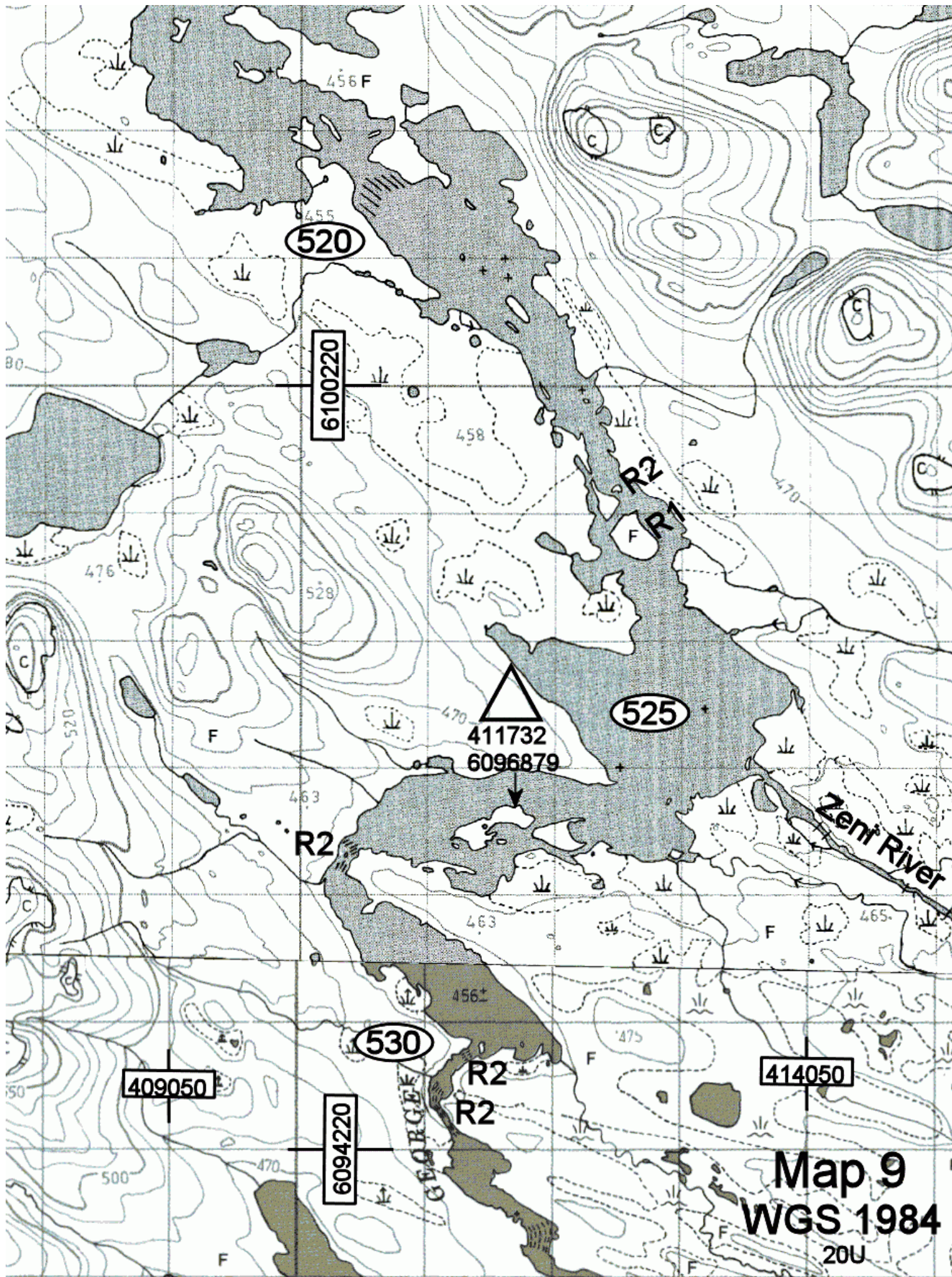
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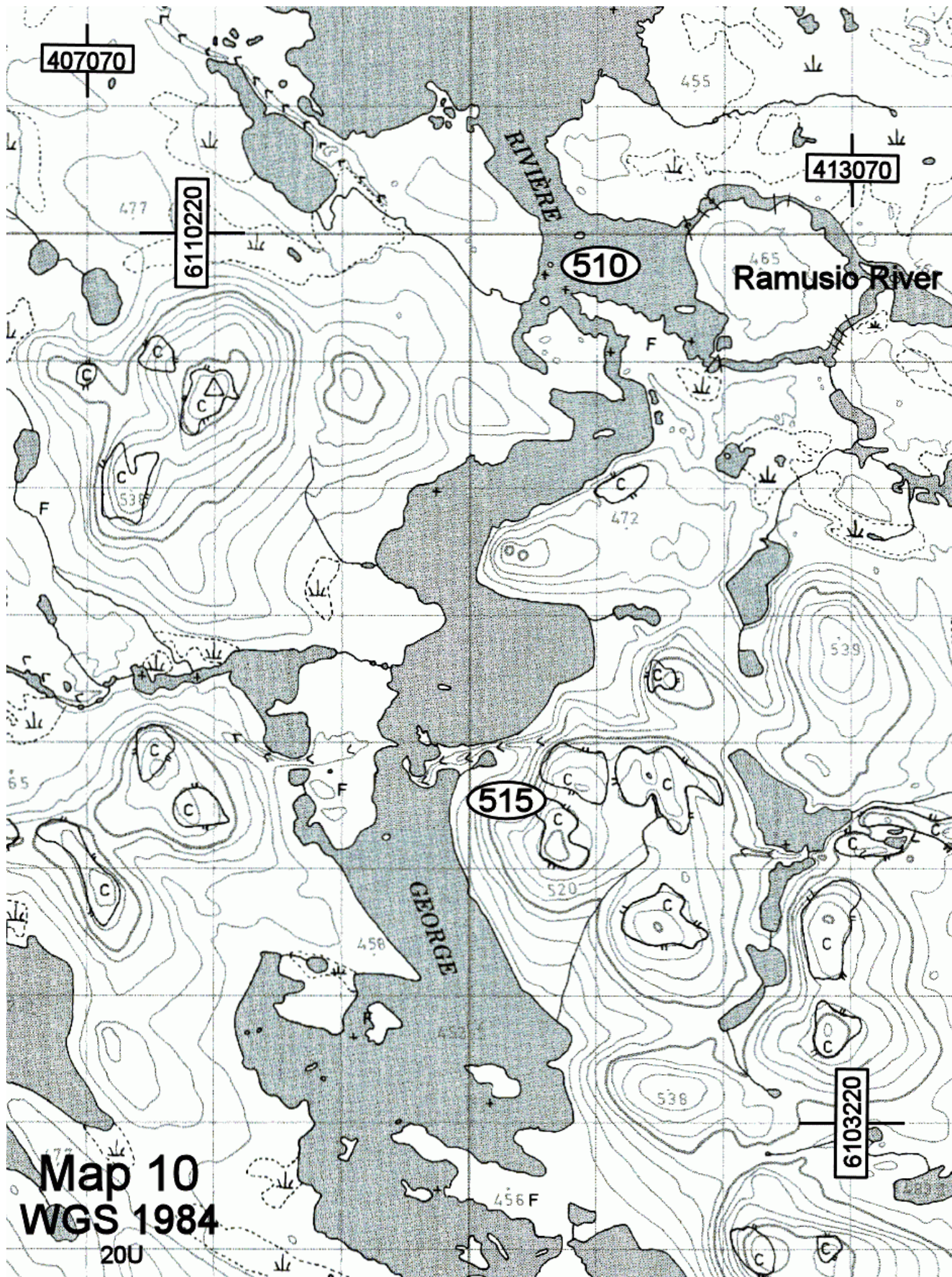
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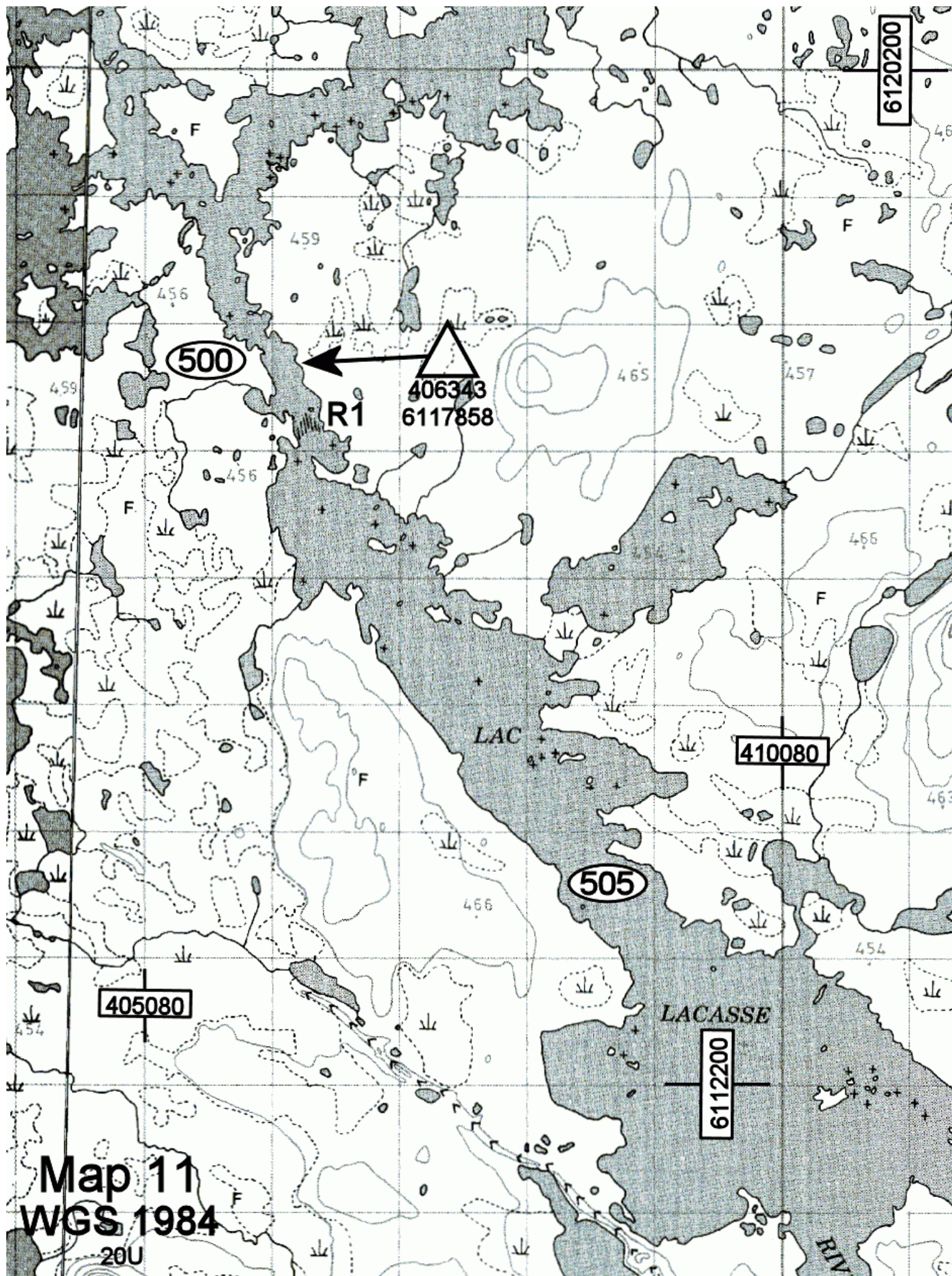


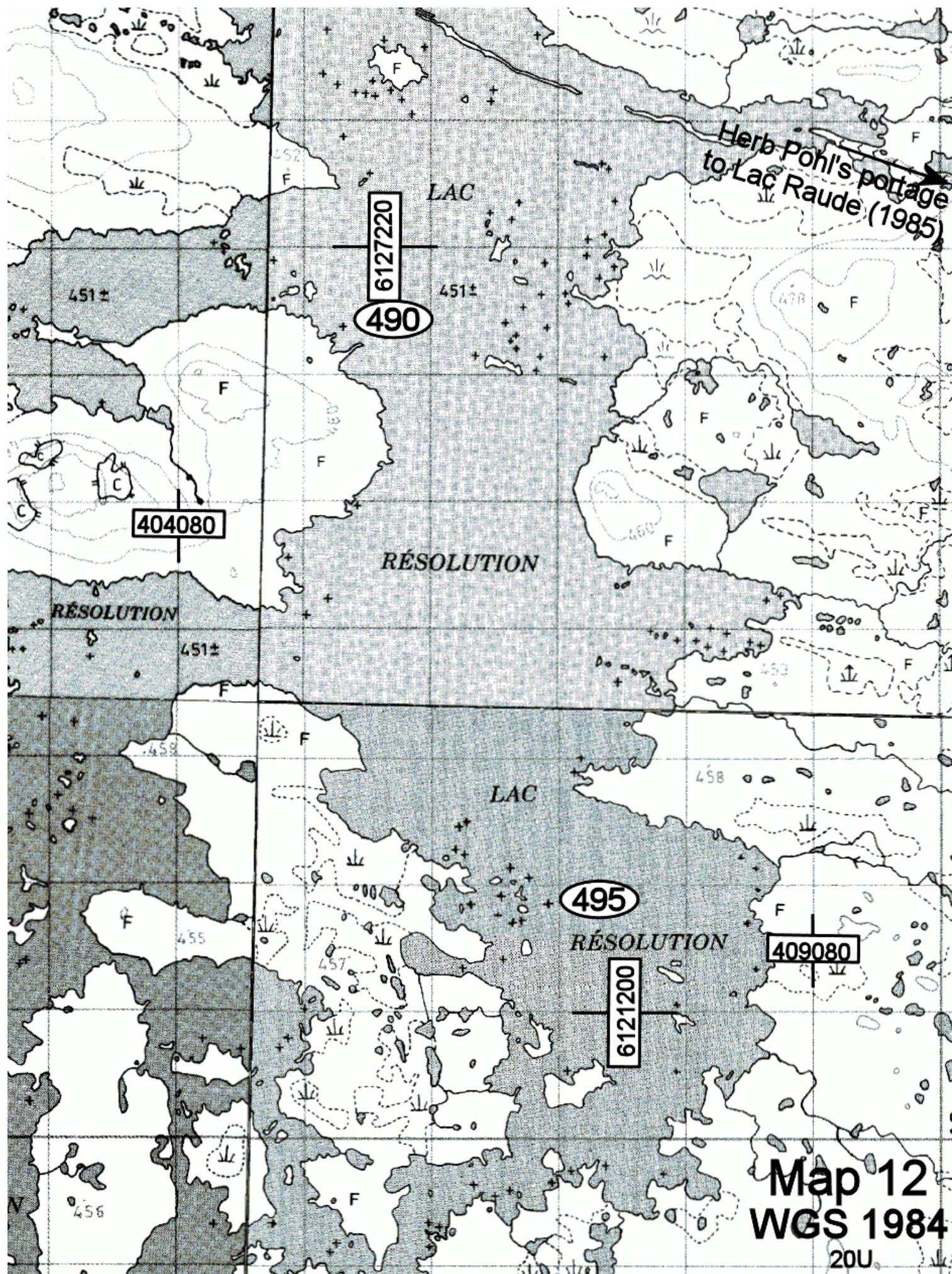
Map 8
WGS 1984
20U



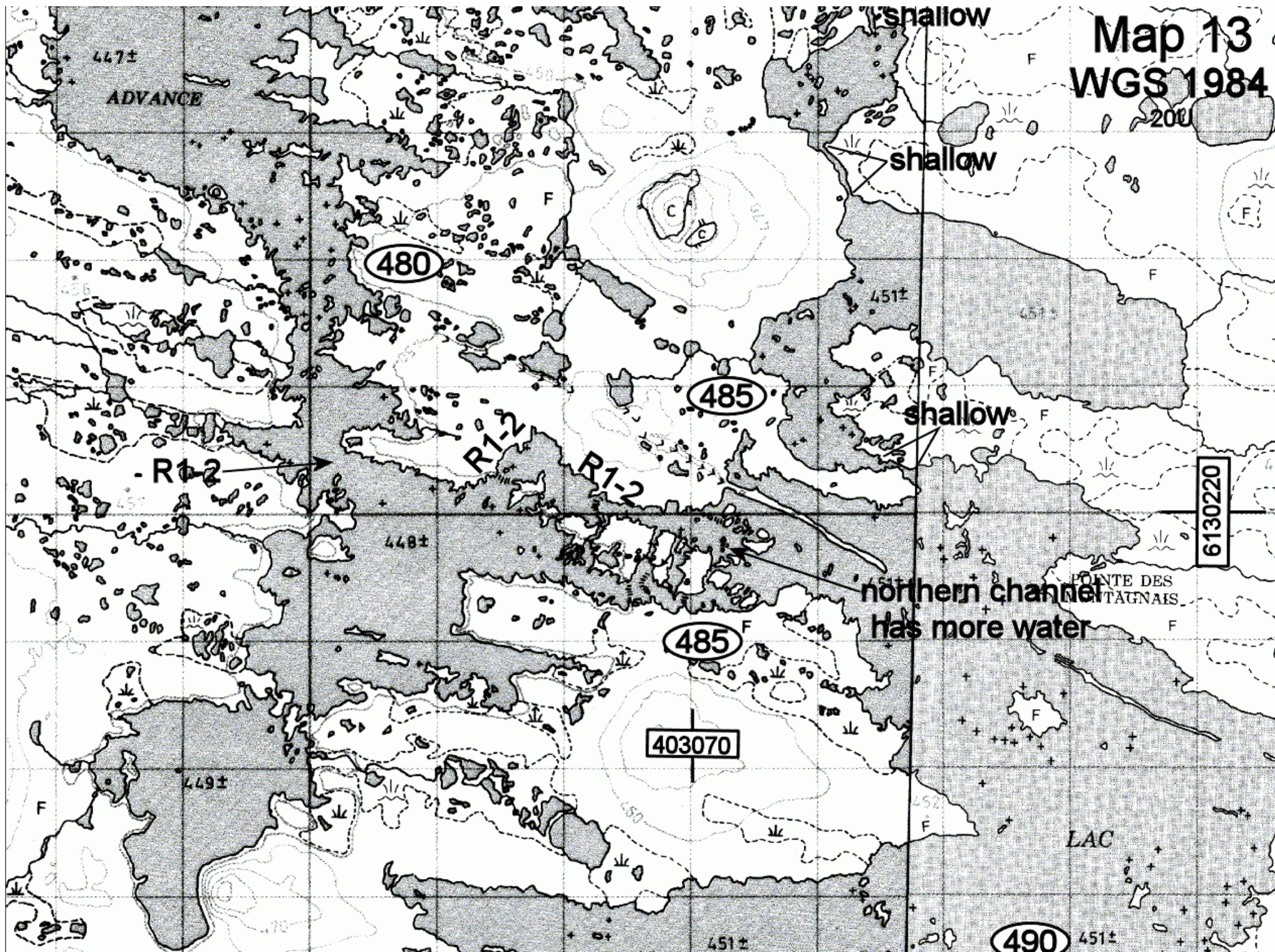




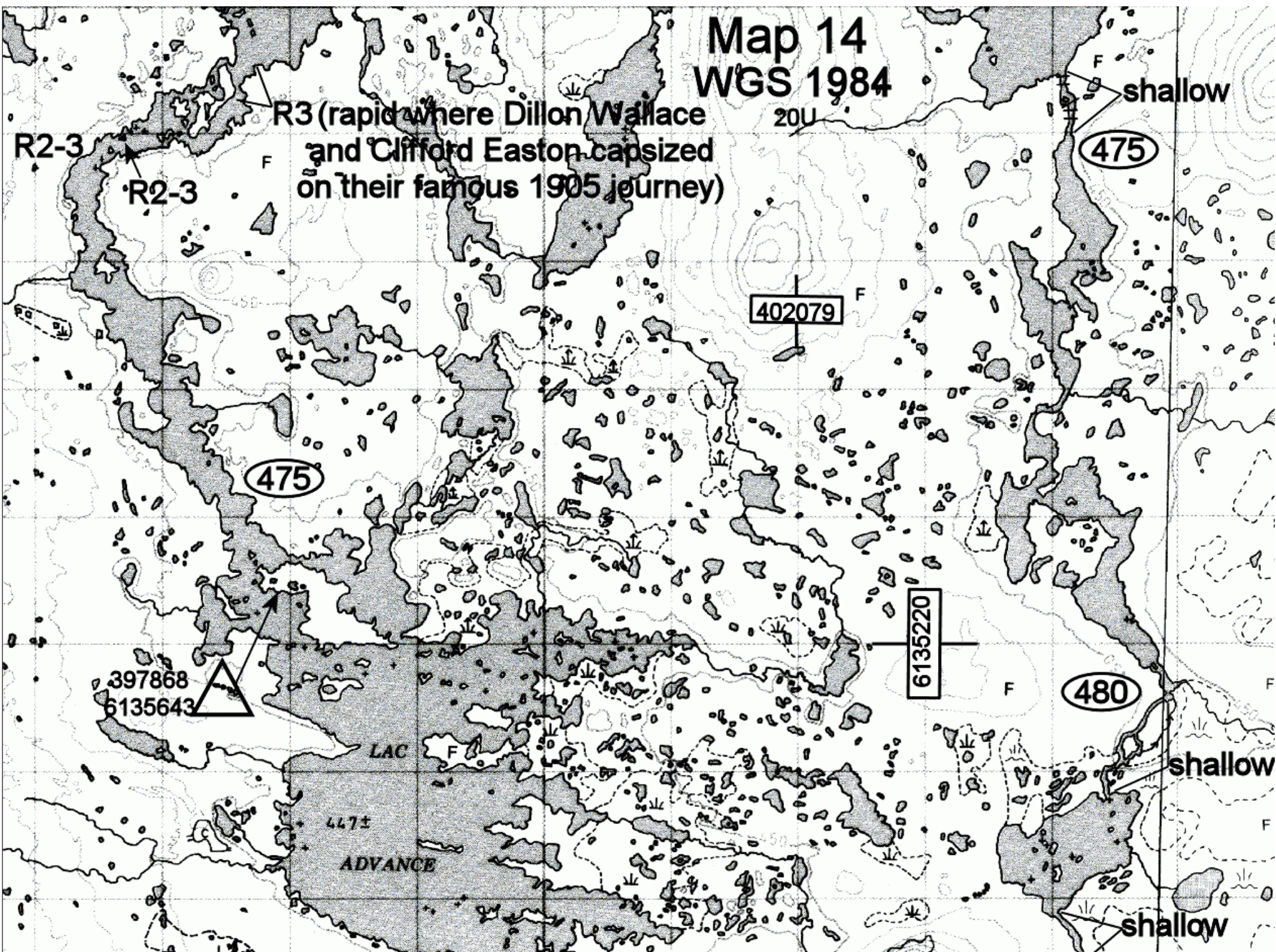




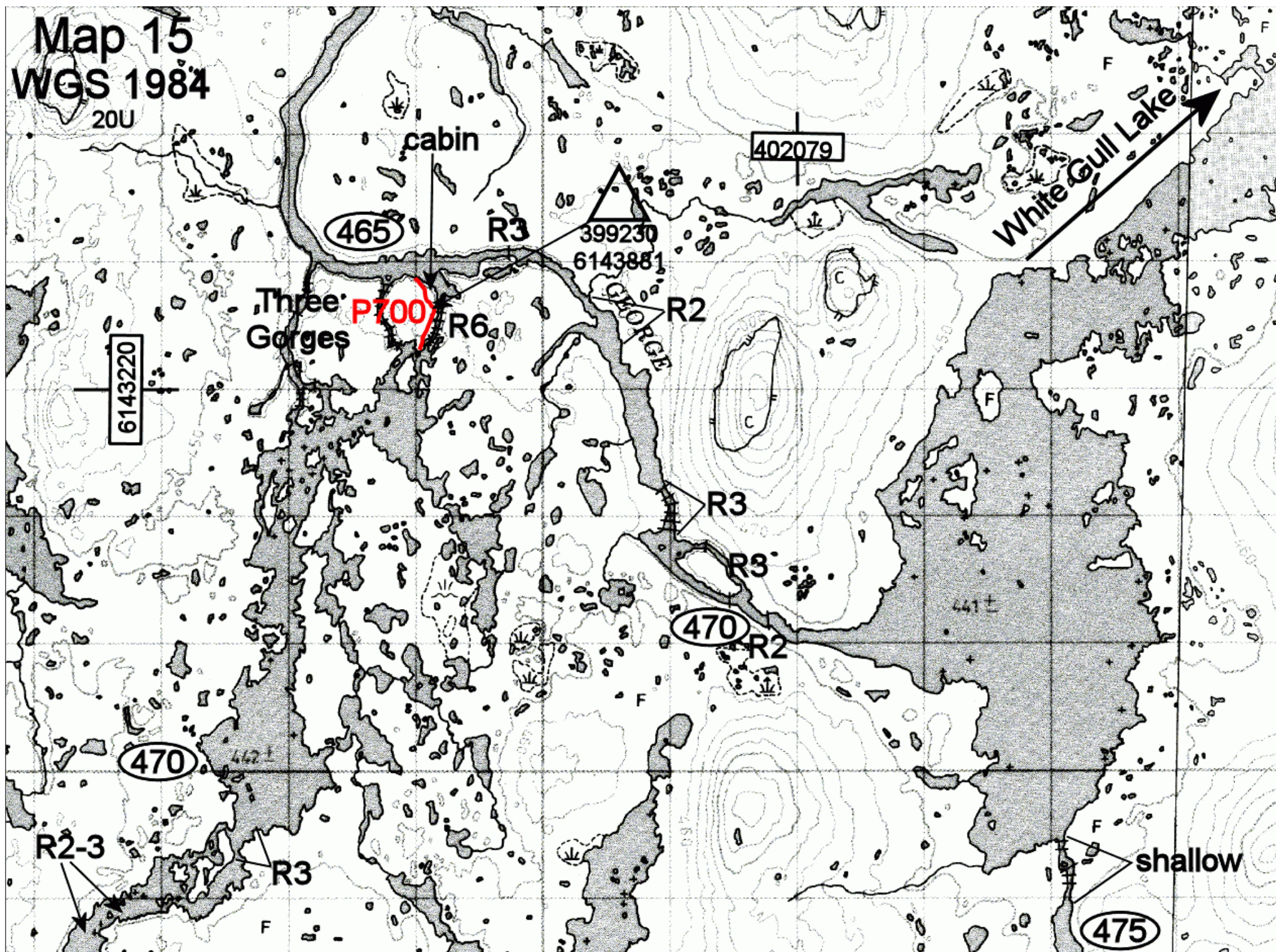
Map 13 WGS 1984



Map 14 WGS 1984



Map 15
WGS 1984



Map 16

WGS 1984

20U

393080

6154210

R3

R3

R2

R2

455

Pohl Creek

route across the height of
land from De Pas River

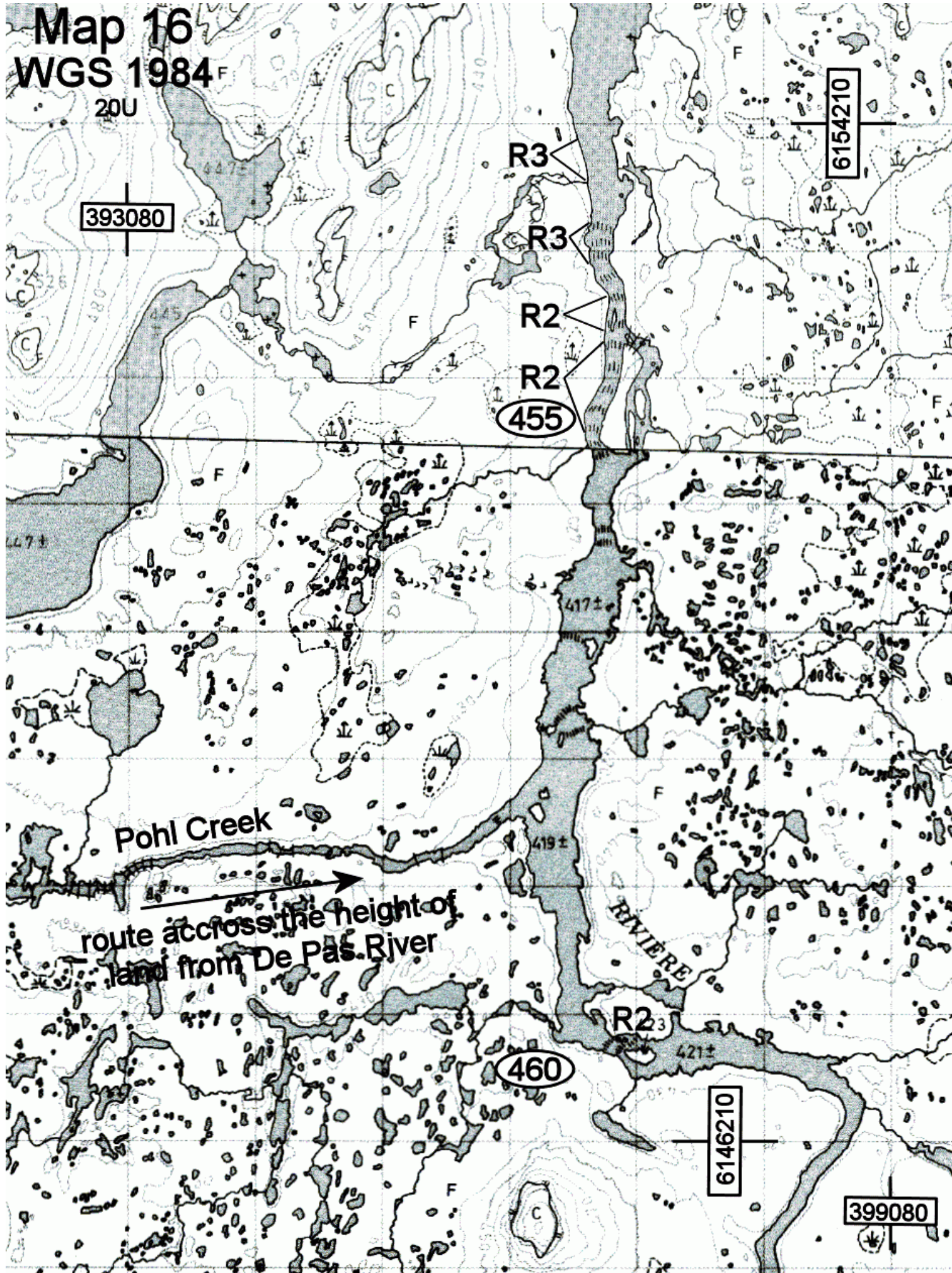
RIVIERE

R2₃

460

6146210

399080



Map 17 WGS 1984

20U

6163210

R5/waterfall

R3

R7

/P500

445

R1

R3

397077
6159619

R2

cabins

GEORGE

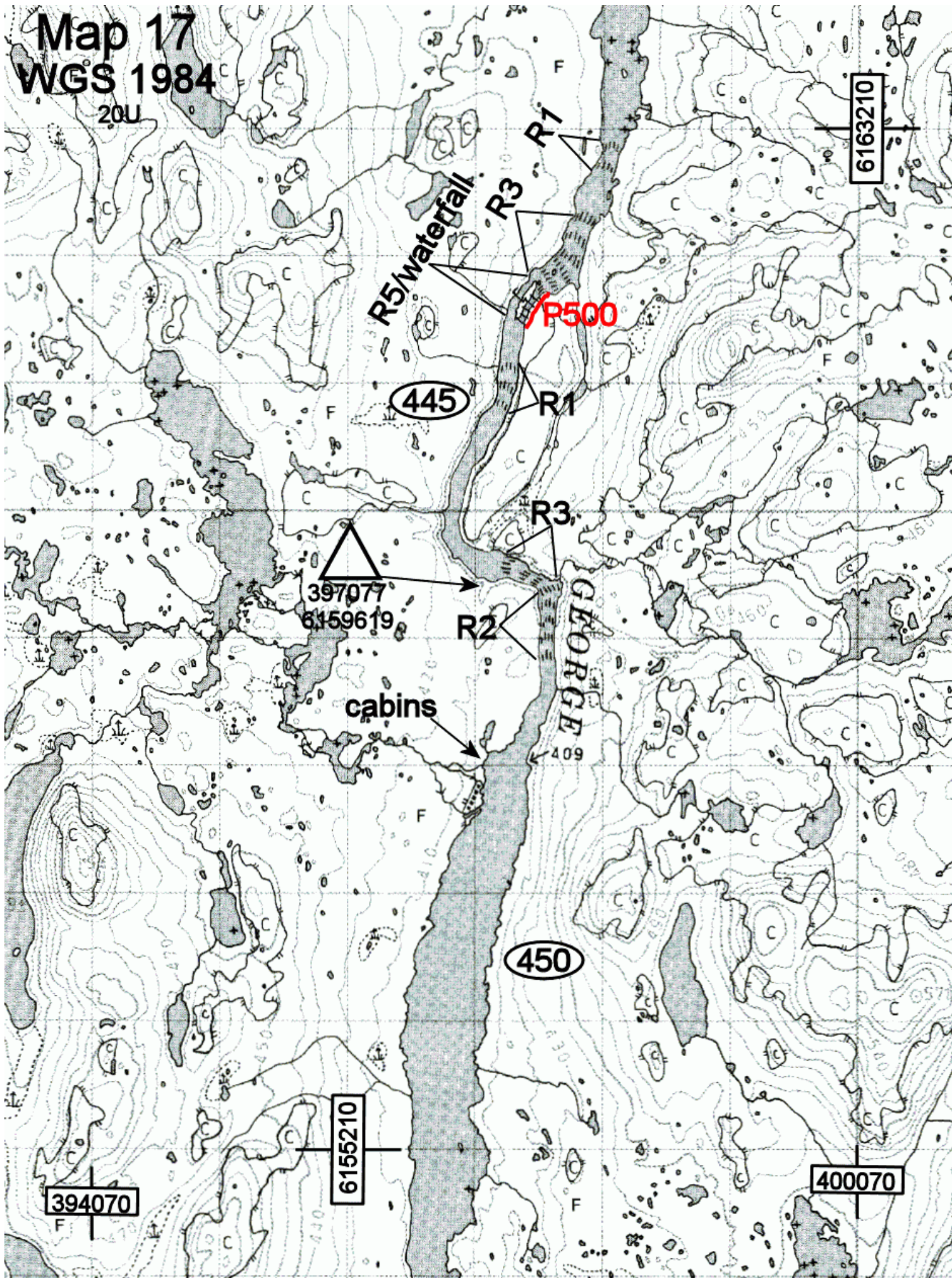
409

450

394070

6155210

400070



Map 18 WGS 1984

20U

6172210

R3

R1

435

R2

R1

RIVIERE

495070

6165210

398672

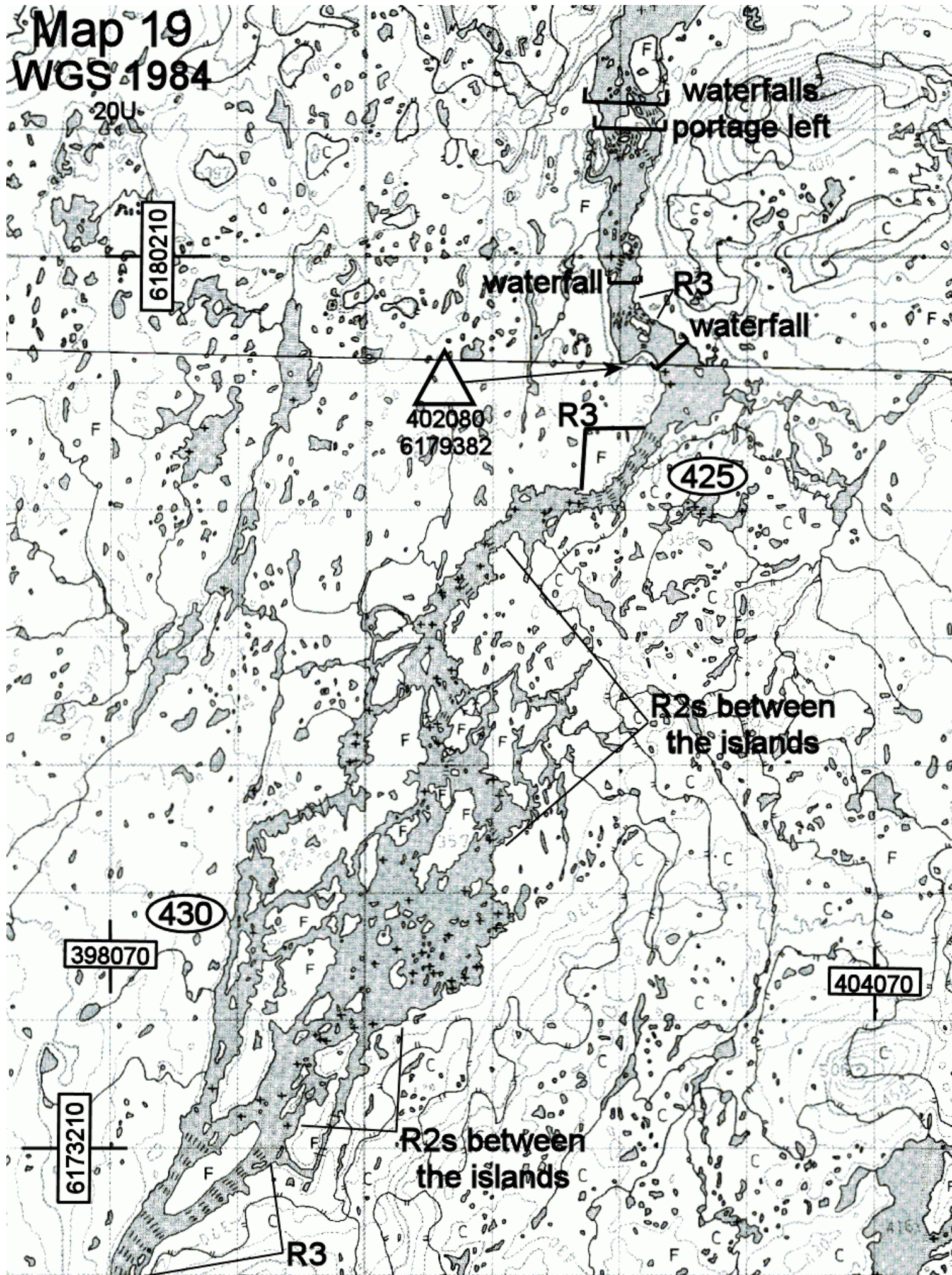
6166303

440

400070

Map 19

WGS 1984



Map 20
WGS 1984

20U

400060

6190210

404060

410

R4

line or portage

399743
6187859

G E O

415

G E

R2

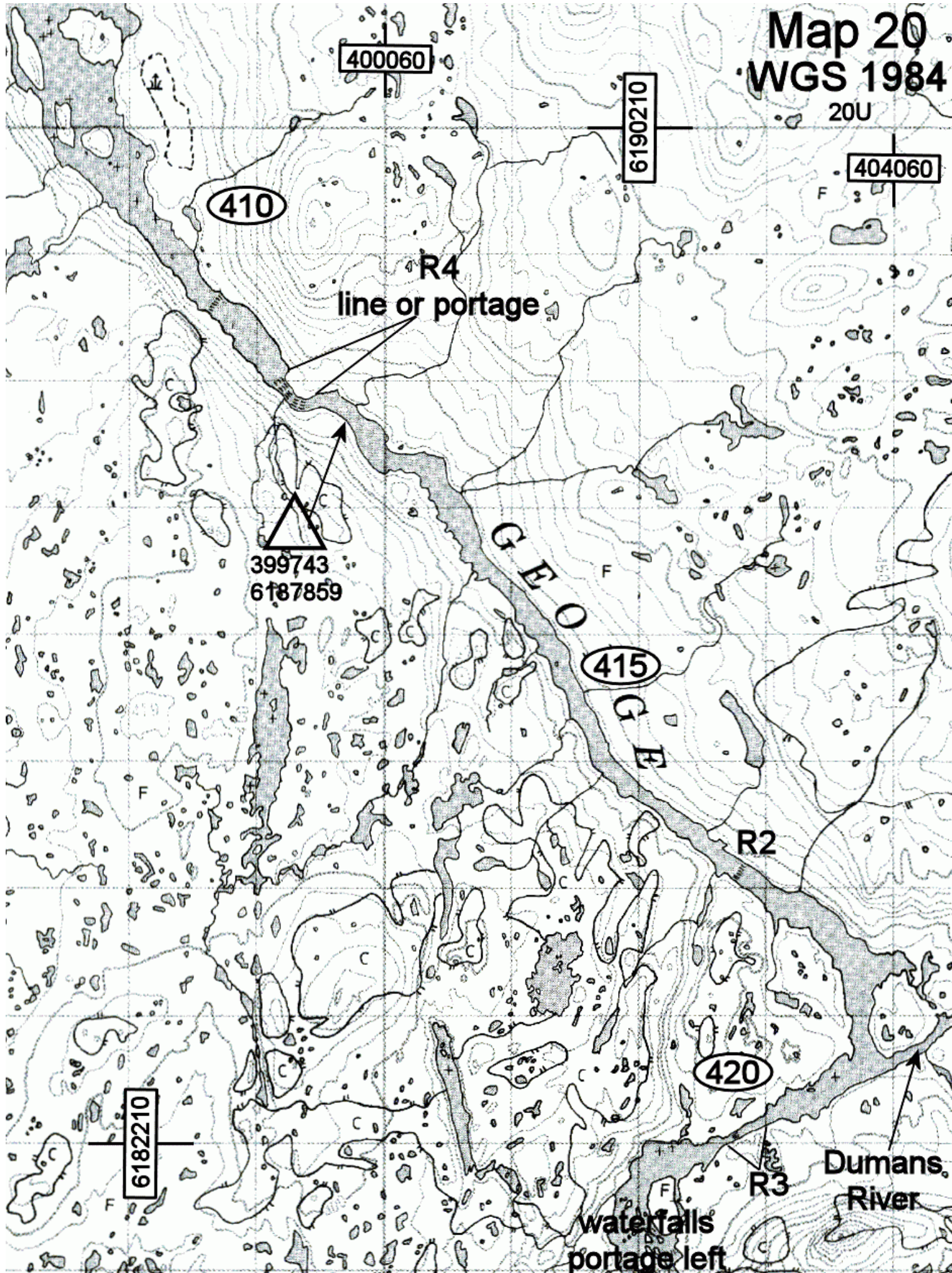
420

R3

Dumans.
River

waterfalls
portage left

6182210



Map 21
WGS 1984
200

6198200

400

R2

R3

397050

405

392050

6191200

R
I
E
R
E

Map 22
WGS 1984

20U

388050

6202200

390

389964
6198250

PA
Twin River Lodge
389810 6196091

Teepee
camp

swifts

395

400

R2

R3

393050

6193200

